

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. – 42. (canceled)

43. **(currently amended)** A switch station, comprising:

a switch exchanging an ATM cell;

a memory storing control data to control operations of the switch station;

an intra-station device, accommodating a subscriber line, performing a communication operation on a subscriber ATM cell that is transmitted to or received from the subscriber line;

a control processor generating control information in a link access protocol (LAP) frame data format, which cannot be exchanged by said switch; and

an interface unit converting the data format of the generated control information into a the data format of the ATM cell to transmit the control information to the intra-station device through the switch, wherein

the control information is communicated according to link access protocol,

the intra-station device, upon receiving the control information from the control processor, transmits a direct memory access request to the interface unit to obtain control data stored in the memory,

said interface unit obtains the control data from the memory according to the direct memory access request, and converts the data format of the control data into the data format of the ATM cell to transmit the control data to the intra-station device through the switch, and

the intra-station device performs ~~a~~the communication operation on the subscriber ATM cell based on the control data received through the switch.

44. **(currently amended)** The switch station according to claim 43, wherein

said intra-station device comprises identifying means for identifying whether received data is subscriber data or the control information; and

said intra-station device transmits the received data after adding routing information, when said identifying means has received the subscribed data, to received subscriber data to be routed to a destination, and after adding the routing information, when said identifying means has received the control information, to received control information to be routed to said interface unit ~~at said receiving equipment~~ of the switch station.

45. – 95. (canceled)